Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 031993-129

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of	)	
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Robert T. Foster et al.	)	Group Art Unit:
	)	
Application No.:	)	Examiner:
	)	
Filed: November 14, 2001	)	
	)	
For: METHOD OF USING DEUTERATED CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKERS	)	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

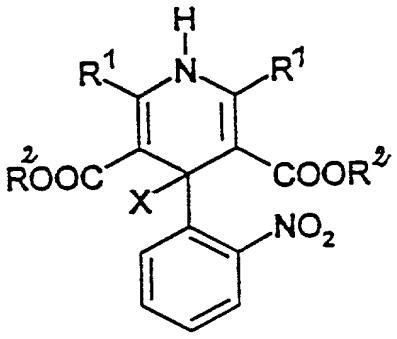
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, which is a continuation application of 09/558,325, please enter the following amendment.

Please cancel claims 1-28 and add claims 29-44 as follows:

29. A dihydropyridine compound wherein at least one of the hydrogen atoms is replaced with a deuterium atom, characterized in that said dihydropyridine compound is deuterated nifedipine having the formula



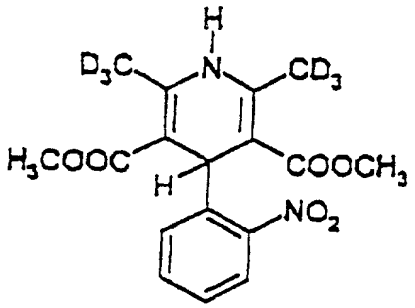
wherein:

X=H, R^1 = CH_3 wherein each H-atom may be replaced by a D-atom, and R^2=CH_3 wherein at most 5 out of the total 6H atoms may be replaced by a D atom, and

wherein at least one of R^1 and R^2 together contains a D-atom.

30. The dihydropyridine of claim 29 wherein at least one of the methyl groups in the 2,6-position is CD_3.

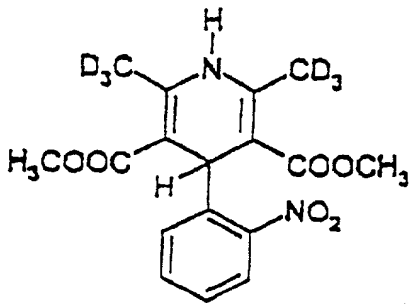
31. The dihydropyridine of claim 29 wherein X=H,R^1=CD_3 and R^2=CH_3 of formula



32. A pharmaceutical composition for use as a medicament comprising one or more dihydropyridine compounds of claim 29 as the active ingredient and a pharmaceutically acceptable support.

33. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 32 wherein the dihydropyridine compounds are characterized in that at least one of the methyl groups in the 2,6-position is CD_3.

34. A pharmaceutical composition of claim 32 wherein X=H,R^1=CD_3 and R^2=CH_3 of formula



35. A calcium channel blocking 1,4-dihydropyridine compound selected from nifedipine and nicardipine with an extended duration of action compared with a non-deuterated nifedipine and nicardipine, respectively, wherein one or more hydrogen atoms of one or both of the methyl groups in the 2 and 6 positions are replaced with a deuterium atom.

36. The dihydropyridine compound of claim 35 characterized in that all hydrogen atoms of the methyl groups in the 2 and 6 positions are replaced with deuterium atoms.

37. A method of extending the duration of action of a calcium channel blocking undeuterated 1,4-dihydropyridine compound selected from nifedipine and nicardipine whereby one or more hydrogen atoms of one or both of the methyl groups in the 2 and 6 positions are replaced with a deuterium atom.

38. The method of claim 37 wherein the dihydropyridine compound is characterized in that all hydrogen atoms of the methyl groups in the 2 and 6 positions are replaced with deuterium atoms.

39. A calcium channel blocking 1,4 dihydropyridine compound selected from nifedipine and nicardipine with an enhanced use dependency compared with a non-deuterated nifedipine and nicardipine, respectively, whereby one or more hydrogen atoms of one or both of the methyl groups in the 2 and 6 positions are replaced with a deuterium atom.

40. The dihydropyridine compound of claim 39 characterized in that all hydrogen atoms of the methyl groups in the 2 and 6 positions are replaced with deuterium atoms.

41. A method of enhancing the use dependency of a calcium channel blocking 1,4-dihydropyridine compound selected from nifedipine and nicardipine, compared with a non-deuterated nifedipine and nicardipine, respectively, whereby one or more hydrogen atoms of one or both of the methyl groups in the 2 and 6 positions are replaced with a deuterium atom.

42. The method of claim 41 wherein the dihydropyridine compound is characterized in that all hydrogen atoms of the methyl groups in the 2 and 6 positions are replaced with deuterium atoms.

43. A method of modifying the dose-response relationship of a calcium channel blocking 1,4-dihydropyridine compound selected from nifedipine and nicardipine, compared with a non-deuterated nifedipine and nicardipine, respectively, whereby one or more hydrogen atoms of one or both of the methyl groups in the 2 and 6 positions are replaced with a deuterium atom.

44. The method of claim 43 wherein the channel blocking 1,4-dihydropyridine compound is characterized in that all hydrogen atoms of the methyl groups in the 2 and 6 positions are replaced with deuterium atoms.

Respectfully submitted,
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